MEDIA RELEASE



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County Executive announces seven new confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 and signs of community spread in Erie County

Total of confirmed positive cases is 27

Erie, PA – County Executive Kathy Dahlkemper today announced seven new confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 have been reported in Erie County, and a total of 646 negatives. The total positive cases of COVID-19 in Erie County to date is 27.

Three of the individuals are in their 20s, 30s and 70s; investigations continue on the four others. Overall contact tracing by Erie County Department of Health continues on all open cases.

The state of Pennsylvania has seen 2,963 new cases and 26 more deaths in the past 24 hours.

"Ladies and gentlemen, if you have not taken this global pandemic seriously, I can assure you that you do not have a choice anymore," Dahlkemper said. "I can officially say we are now seeing community spread in Erie County. Please stay home unless you absolutely must go out. We know the most prevalent way to spread COVID-19 is from person to person. Continue practicing social/physical distancing. If you must go out, take every extra precaution – and wear your mask. I care about you, so I wear my mask. I'm asking you to care about others and to wear your mask, too. Even while wearing a mask, stay at least six feet away from anyone outside of your home."

This week is Public Health Week. The public is encouraged to show their appreciation for Erie County Department of Health's practitioners, nurses, call takers, doctors and environmental health service workers by writing an email of thanks to ecdhinfo@eriecountypa.gov, or sending a note in the mail, addressed to 606 W. Second St., Erie, PA 16507.

For more information related to COVID-19, including fact sheets, business resources, family resources, videos, translations and more, visit <u>eriecountypa.gov</u> and the social media accounts for Erie County, Pa., and Erie County Department of Health.

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